



Parks and Recreation ♦ 4811 North Saginaw Road ♦ Midland, Michigan 48640 ♦ 989.837.6930 ♦ 989.835.5651 Fax ♦ www.cityofmidlandmi.gov

April 26, 2017

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Karen Murphy, Public Services Director

SUBJECT: Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting of May 2, 2017

The regular meeting of the Midland Parks and Recreation Commission has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 2, 2017. The meeting will be held in Council Chambers of Midland City Hall at 333 W. Ellsworth and will begin at 7:00 p.m.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Roll Call
- 4) Minutes of meeting of February 7, 2017
- 5) Call to Audience
- 6) Public Art Committee proposal
- 7) Tridge renovation project
- 8) Proposal for playground equipment in Parkdale Park
- 9) Cemetery staffing update
- 10) Project Reports
 - a. City Forest year end update
 - b. Recreation update
 - c. Arbor Day events
- 11) Old Business
- 12) New Business
- 13) Adjourn



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April 26, 2017

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Karen Murphy, Director of Public Services

SUBJECT: Notes for Meeting of May 2, 2017

Public Art Committee proposal: A member of the Midland Public Art Committee will present a proposal to locate a piece of public art near the Farmers Market green space. The art will likely be placed on the H Hotel's property, with the adjacent City property as an alternate location. The Committee would like the Commission's support of the project along with approval of the alternate location.

Tridge renovation project: I will share details on the Tridge renovation project that has been approved by City Council. Work has already begun to remove/replace decking, railings and refinish the entire structure. The project timeline is estimated at 22-25 weeks with minimal access during the entire process, so I will discuss the implications of that as well.

Proposal for playground equipment in Parkdale Park: Parks staff have re-evaluated Parkdale Park as a possible location for new play equipment. This park was identified in 2013 as a minimal use park with much more robust play options across Swede Road at the old Parkdale Elementary School. Since that time, the play equipment has been removed from the former Parkdale School location and a new housing complex has gone up on the adjacent parcel. Parks staff feel play equipment would be a welcome addition to the park going forward. I will share the process involved in reintroducing a playground to the park.

Cemetery staffing update: I will discuss the upcoming retirement of the cemetery sexton, and share the new staffing plan with the Commission. The plan proposes closing the cemetery office from December 15 – March 1, with appointments available upon request. Normal burial operations would continue during this time, but the cemetery office would not be staffed on a daily basis.

Project Reports

- 1) **City Forest year end update:** Marcie Post will be on hand to share an end of season report on the City Forest winter operations.
- 2) **Recreation update:** Marcie Post will share an update on the upcoming Tunes by the Tridge series, along with information on Pitch, Hit and Run. Marcie will also talk about swim lesson registration.
- 3) **Arbor Day events:** The City forestry crew partnered again this year with the Dow Gardens to offer Arbor Day programming to local elementary schools. I will share details on the events.

MIDLAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2017
MIDLAND CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 P.M.

PROPOSED MINUTES

- 1) Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson John Metevia
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Roll Call:
 - a. MEMBERS PRESENT: Carney, Johns, Metevia, Rankin, Steidemann, Varela
 - b. MEMBERS ABSENT: Billotti, Carlson, Rice
 - c. OTHERS PRESENT: Brad Kaye, Assistant City Manager for Development Services; Bo Miller, Momentum Midland; Chelsea Rowley, Momentum Midland
- 4) Minutes of December 6, 2016: Steidemann motioned, Carney seconded to receive minutes of the meeting of December 6, 2016. Motion passed 6-0.
- 5) Call to Audience: None
- 6) 4D site restoration project donation from Momentum Midland: Brad Kaye, Assistant City Manager for Development Services, spoke about the history of the 4D manufacturing site and the City's purchase of the former manufacturing facility located on Poseyville Rd. The property was purchased through FEMA's Flood Mitigation Assistance program for acquisition, demolition and restoration of the site. Kaye explained that FEMA restricts future use of the land because it is in the flood plain, with recreational use allowed. The City looked into a low impact restoration plan with meadow and wetland areas that would require low maintenance. Kaye explained that City crews found on average 5' of concrete rubble across the property, and the remaining FEMA funds are not adequate to restore the site. Kaye indicated the City's plan was put on hold at this point.

Murphy shared that Momentum Midland then approached the City requesting approval to work with the design firm that developed the Dow ash pond restoration to work on a redevelopment plan for the 4D site. Bo Miller, representing Momentum Midland, then presented a proposed development plan for the former 4D site.

Miller spoke to the aesthetic importance of the site as an entrance to the town, and presented a three phase approach to restore the site. Miller shared phase I, with riparian restoration along the river front, grasslands and overlooks, fishing platforms and walking paths. Phase II would involve connecting the site to the East End with a pedestrian bridge, creating an urban loop with existing trails. When complete, Miller shared that Dow Chemical plans to move their fence line back, opening up a total of 40 acres of natural preserve (14 acres on site and 26 acres of ash pond restoration). Miller discussed how the proposed plan supports

the goals in the City's Parks & Recreation Master Plan, the DDA's strategic plan and the City's overall master plan with regard to land use. Miller talked about the proposed cost and scope of each phase, with phase I being to the east side of Poseyville at a cost of \$2.2M, phase II being the addition of the pedestrian foot bridge at a cost of \$1.6M, and phase III to look at options for relocating the City's park maintenance building with a cost to be determined. Miller discussed the funding sources, including in-kind services from Dow Chemical and designer AECOM, and funds from the Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation, the Charles J. Strosacker Foundation and the City's remaining FEMA grant funds.

Rankin motioned to recommend to City Council to accept this gift of site restoration at the former 4D property from Momentum Midland. Steidemann seconded the motion and the motion passed 6-0.

- 7) Request to name the dog park in Chippewassee Park: Murphy presented a request from the EGL Currie Foundation to name the dog park located in Chippewassee Park as the Currie Dog Park. Murphy shared that the EGL Currie Foundation has been a strong advocate and financial supporter of the dog park since its development in 2005. Naming the dog park requires formal approval by the Parks and Recreation Commission, and Murphy stated that the Parks staff would work with the Foundation to create appropriate signage for the dog park.

Johns motioned to approve naming the dog park the Currie Dog Park. Motion was seconded by Carney and passed 6 - 0.

- 8) Project Report:
- a. **MNRTF grant for upper Emerson Park renovation:** Murphy reported that the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund has recommended the City's application for renovations to the upper Emerson Park riverfront for funding by the Governor. The funds are scheduled for appropriation this spring, with the project to start thereafter. Murphy shared the conceptual design for the portion of the project that has received funding. Murphy will continue to seek funding for the balance of the project, which includes replacement of railing and walkway along the river's edge, installation of seating and picnic areas and removal of remaining roadway to create green space along river.
 - b. **Central Park Master Plan:** Murphy shared the final draft of the Central Park Master Plan, with changes made based on comments at the December Commission meeting to include addition of a drop off point for vehicles next to the band shell, and shifting of the tennis/pickle ball courts to show space for future expansion of 2 more pickle ball courts if needed. Murphy shared that the next step in the process was to send copies of the plan to all those who participated in the input process, and then to start identifying funding for the various elements. Murphy also stated that a master plan is a work in progress and could evolve over time as funding and needs arise.

- 9) Old Business : None

- 10) New Business: None

11) Adjourn: Motioned by Rankin, seconded by Carney to adjourn the meeting.
Motion passed 6– 0. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Murphy
Director of Public Services